

## Message Text

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ACTION MED-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 ABF-01 /055 W

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R 220500Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2639

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED, SN

SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR DRUG ABUSE -- PREVENTION PROGRAM IN SINGAPORE

REFS: (A) STATE 084541; (B) STATE 113489; (C) SINGAPORE 0908

1. REF A NOTED U.S. GRANT TO SACAC PROGRAM MUST BE FOR EXPENDITURES DIRECTLY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT. ALL USG FUNDS GIVEN TO SACAC TO DATE HAVE BEEN SPENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAODAP AND STATE. SACAC FUNDS HAVE BEEN SPENT PRIMARILY IN PROVIDING YOUTH COUNSELING, DRUG PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS AIMED AT TEEN-AGERS AND PARENTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND SUMMER JOB PROGRAMS FOR AMERICAN TEEN-AGERS. IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, THESE PROGRAMS ARE NOT ONLY SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED IN INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT, BUT ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL \$15,000 FOR FY 76 SET FORTH REF C WOULD BE USED IN SIMILAR MANNER.

2. EMBASSY8 AND SACAC WELCOME GENERAL THRUST OF INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE PROPOSAL SET FORTH REF B. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF PROBLEM OF FINDING AND/OR FUNDING PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR, REQUEST DEPARTMENT APPROVE NOW

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UNCONDITIONALLY \$15,000 GRANT FOR FY 76 WITH PROMISE OF

ADDITIONAL \$5,000 IF WE SUCCEED IN LOCATING  
ADDITIONAL COUNSELOR PRIOR TO END OF JUNE.

3. REYNOLDS HAS BEEN DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB IN SINGAPORE BOTH AS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR AND AS AN ADMINISTRATOR. IN FIRST YEAR AND ONE-HALF OF SACAC OPERATIONS HE HAS PERSONNALLY COUNSELED OVER 150 TEEN-AGERS AND/OR PARENTS. WHILE MOST OF THESE HAVE BEEN ON A ONE-TIME BASIS, HE HAS ALSO BEEN COUNSELING APPROXIMATELY 38 TEEN-AGERS ON A CONTINUING BASIS. THERE MANY GRATEFUL PARENTS AS WELL AS TEENAGERS HERE WHO APPRECIATE HIS ABILITIES AND HAVE FOUND HIM A VERY UNDERSTANDING AND HELPFUL PERSON TO TURN TO WHEN THEY OR THEIR CHILDREN HAVE BEEN IN DIFFICULTY. UNFORTUNATELY, THE ONE PROGRAM THAT DID NOT SUCCEED WAS EFFORT TO TRAIN AND USE VOLUNTEER PARA-COUNSELORS. STUDENTS SENSED THEY WEREN'T "PROS" AND INSISTED ON GOING DIRECTLY TO REYNOLDS. HE IS ALSO CONSIDERED A BROADENING INFLUENCE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD WHICH NOW HAS A MUCH BETTER CONCEPTION OF THE DRUG PROBLEM IN SINGAPORE AND WAYS OF MEETING IT. REYNOLDS HAS ALSO BEEN ADEPT AT OPERATING IN SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT WHERE GOVERNMENT TENDS TO BE SUSPICIOUS OF ANY BUT THE MOST RIGID AND AUTHORITATIAN APPROACH TO THE DRUG PROBLEM. REGRETTABLY, THE EASY AVAILABILITY OF MARIJUANA AND NO. 3 HEROIN HAS MADE IT AN UPHILL BATTLE FOR SACAC.

4. ALTHOUGH REYNOLDS IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, HE IS THE FIRST TO ADMIT THERE ARE SOME TEEN-AGERS HE CAN NOT REACH AND THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER COUNSELOR WITH A DIFFERENT STYLE AND PERHAPS WOMEWHAT LESS TIED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT WOULD BE USEFUL. (COMMENT: WHILE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE COUNSELOR OPERATING SOMEWHAT INDEPENDENTLY, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS PERSON WOULD OPERATE UNDER REYNOLD'S GENERAL SUPERVISION.)

5. LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ARE DOBUTFUL WHETHER AT THIS TIME OF RECESSION WHEN ALL COMPANIES ARE CUTTING COSTS IT CAN RAISE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY FOR A FULL-TIME COUNSELOR EVEN WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$5,000 GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT. WE ESTIMATE THAT IF FULL-TIME, EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECRUITED IN U.S., IT WOULD REQUIRE AT LEAST \$25,000 TO PAY FOR HIS SALARY AND REQUISITE ALLOWANCES. SACAC IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE \$4,000 FROM CONTINGENCY FUNDS FROM ITS OWN BUDGET TO FUND PART-TIME COUNSELOR, BUT IT DOES NOT HAVE FUNDS TO RECRUIT FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL.

6. SACAC PLANS TO EXPLORE WITH LOCAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND OTHER GROUPS WHETHER QUALIFIED PART-TIME COUNSELOR

AVAILABLE LOCALLY. IN MEANTIME REQUEST DEPARTMENT APPROVE NOW ORIGINAL \$15,000 REQUEST SO THAT FUND-RAISING DRIVE CAN GET OFF THE GROUND. IT IS, OF COURSE, EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT EXISTING PROGRAM HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO OPERATE WHILE EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL COUNSELING ASSETS.

7. BUDGET DETAILS FOR FY 76 FOLLOW:

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND EXPENXES - US\$ 37,500  
( THIS FIGURE IS LOWER THAN SALARY AND ALLOWANCES PAID TO TWO PRINCIPALS AT SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL AND IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO AMOUNT RECEIVED BY HEAD OF GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT.)  
OFFICE RENTAL AND LOCAL SECRETARY -- US\$8,000  
MISCELLANEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES -- US\$4,000  
CONTINGENCY FUNDS -- US\$3,000  
ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM -- US\$4,500  
(US\$ 4,000 WHICH SACAC IS PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL COUNSELING WOULD BE DRAWN PRIMARILY FROM CONTINGENCY FUNDS AND TO LESSER EXTENT FROM PROGRAM EXPENDITURES.)  
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